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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.38 and Add.1)*]

63/34. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/8 of 16 October 1991, 49/141 of 20 December 1994, 51/16 of 11 November 1996, 53/17 of 29 October 1998, 55/17 of 7 November 2000, 57/41 of 21 November 2002, 59/138 of 10 December 2004 and 61/50 of 4 December 2006,

Bearing in mind the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind also, in this regard, the cooperation activities undertaken by the United Nations and the Caribbean Community in fields related to prohibiting and restricting the use of certain conventional weapons, preventing and eradicating the illicit trade in narcotic drugs, small arms and light weapons and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction,

Recalling the fruitful and action-oriented exchanges that have taken place between the two organizations following the signing on 27 May 1997 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community of a cooperation agreement between the secretariats of the two organizations,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999, 55/203 of 20 December 2000, 57/261 of 20 December 2002, 59/230 of 22 December 2004 and 61/197 of 20 December 2006, it recognized the importance of adopting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development,

Bearing in mind also the support that the Caribbean Community has received from the United Nations for its efforts to advance its implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for

the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[1] including in the areas of exploring possibilities for renewable energy and sustainable fisheries,

Noting the support that the United Nations Environment Programme has been extending to the environmental and sustainable development programmes of the Caribbean Community, including its close collaboration with the Sustainable Development Unit of the Caribbean Community Secretariat, and related national and regional institutions,

Expressing appreciation, in this context, for the technical role of the United Nations Environment Programme in building cooperation linkages among the small island developing States of the Caribbean Community, and in facilitating the assessment by them of the implications of their adaptation to climate change, which will guide future United Nations Environment Programme climate change programmes in the region,

Noting that the World Summit on Sustainable Development considered the specific issues and problems facing small island developing States,[2] taking note in this regard of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[3] and noting the outcome of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[4]

Noting also that the Caribbean region is the second most hazard-prone region in the world and is frequently exposed to devastating hazards including earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and volcanic eruptions,

Noting further that, in recent months, parts of the Caribbean region, in particular Haiti, have been hard hit, and in some cases devastated, by hurricanes, and concerned that their frequency, intensity and destructive power continue to pose a challenge to the development of the region,

Taking note of the report by the Secretary-General on implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS,[5] in particular his conclusion that while per capita domestic spending on HIV in low-income and lower middle-income countries has continued to increase, the current pace of scale-up will not meet the estimated resources needed to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support by 2010,

Taking note with appreciation of the joint statement of the fourth general meeting of representatives of the Caribbean Community and the United Nations system, held in Turkeyen, Guyana, on 25 and 26 January 2007,[6]

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[1] See *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum).

[3] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] See *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10–14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum).

[5] A/62/780.

[6] A/61/833-S/2007/179, annex.

Taking note with appreciation also of the number of consultations and information exchanges that have been taking place between officials of the two organizations aimed at strengthening their bilateral cooperation in such areas as crime, drug abuse control and violence,

Gravely concerned about the current daunting international environment, characterized by, inter alia, crises in food and energy security, the impact of global warming and an international financial system in turmoil, all of which create enormous challenges for the development efforts of the countries of the Caribbean Community,

Affirming the consequent need to further strengthen the cooperation that already exists between entities of the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community in the areas of economic and social development and of political and humanitarian affairs,

Convinced of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations,[7]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General, in particular section II.E on the Caribbean Community, concerning efforts to strengthen and deepen cooperation;

2. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in association with the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, as well as the relevant regional organizations, to continue to assist in furthering the development and maintenance of peace and security within the Caribbean region;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to promote and expand cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community in order to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their objectives;

4. *Calls for*, in this context, vastly increased efforts by developed countries to strengthen the multilateral development framework so that the United Nations development system may respond more effectively to the needs of programme countries, so that they, including the countries of the Caribbean Community, can pursue their development efforts on the basis of secure and predictable funding;

5. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to step up their cooperation with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community with a view to intensifying their consultations and programmes of cooperation with the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives, with special attention to the areas and issues identified by the two organizations at their fourth general meeting, held in January 2007,[6] as set out in the report of the Secretary-General, as well as in its resolutions 54/225, 55/2 of 8 September 2000, 55/203 and S-26/2 of 27 June 2001 and the decisions of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable

[7] A/63/228-S/2008/531 and Corr.1.

Development of Small Island Developing States, as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development;

6. *Takes note* of the exchanges in progress between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Caribbean Community aimed at the design and implementation of programmes for enhancing the industrial development capacity of the countries of the Caribbean Community;

7. *Also takes note* of the various cooperation activities between the Caribbean Community and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations designed to increase agricultural output and improve food security in the region by modernizing agricultural production and developing sustainable agricultural strategies;

8. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, as well as Member States, to increase financial and other assistance to the countries of the Caribbean Community to help to implement the priorities of the Caribbean Regional Strategic Framework for HIV/AIDS, which sets out realistic targets for reducing the rate of new infections, raising the quality and coverage of care, treatment and support and building institutional capacity, and to cope with the problems and the burden caused by the HIV/AIDS pandemic;

9. *Stresses* the urgent need for the reopening of the office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the region so as to reinforce the efforts of the States of the region in their struggle against the interrelated scourges of drugs, violent crime and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;

10. *Expresses appreciation* for the cooperation received from the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in the implementation of the activities commemorating on 25 March 2007 the two-hundredth anniversary of the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade, the commemoration of which is to be observed on an annual basis;

11. *Also expresses appreciation* for the continuing support and cooperation being received from the Department of Public Information in the preparatory activities for establishing a permanent memorial to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, in keeping with General Assembly resolution 62/122 of 17 December 2007;

12. *Invites* the Secretary-General to consider utilizing a strategic programming framework modality to strengthen the coordination and cooperation between the two secretariats as well as between the United Nations field offices and the Caribbean Community;

13. *Calls upon* the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to assist the countries of the Caribbean in addressing the social and economic consequences of the vulnerability of Caribbean economies and the challenges that this poses for achieving the Millennium Development Goals and the goal of sustainable development;

14. *Reaffirms* the objective of strengthening the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[1] including through the mobilization of financial and technological resources, as well as capacity-building programmes;

15. *Welcomes* the extensive work done by the Commission on the Caribbean Sea since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 61/197 entitled "Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations", including the development of institutional and legal frameworks for Caribbean Sea governance;

16. *Also welcomes* the initiatives of Member States in assisting in the cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community, and encourages their continuing efforts;

17. *Further welcomes* the convening in New York, on 9 and 10 February 2009, of the fifth general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions on the one hand and of the United Nations system on the other, in order to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the agreed areas and issues and to hold consultations on such additional measures and procedures as may be required to facilitate and strengthen cooperation between the two organizations;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community".

60th plenary meeting
26 November 2008